



NASS

New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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USDA TO MEASURE COMMERCIAL NURSERY PRODUCTION IN CONNECTICUT

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the Commercial Nursery Production Survey at the beginning of 2004. This survey was last conducted in 2000 and tallied sales for nine categories of nursery products which totaled \$3.32 billion across 17 States. Connecticut ranked 11th among these States with \$92.1 million in sales, about three percent of the 17 State total. In 2002, over one-third of the cash receipts received by agricultural producers in Connecticut were generated by the greenhouse and nursery industry.

This survey will be used to produce reliable, accurate data on key items such as area of production, number of plants sold, value of sales, production, and intended nursery sales. Leaders from the American Nursery and Landscape Association encourage grower participation in these surveys, knowing it is crucial to have accurate data on the nursery industry.

In late December 2003 and the beginning of January 2004, approximately 200 Connecticut nursery producers will receive questionnaires. The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is responsible for conducting this survey. During the second half of January, non-respondents will be contacted by telephone or in person. Complete, accurate, and timely reporting by growers will ensure that reliable, objective data on current commercial nursery production will be available to the public and the industry. Accurate industry statistics are crucial to obtaining research funding and government support on various issues.

As with all NASS survey work, individual operator information is kept strictly confidential and is even exempt from requests under the Freedom of Information Act. Results from the commercial nursery production survey are scheduled for release in the **Nursery Crops 2003 Summary** available on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/ on July 26, 2004. These results will be an effective measure of America's nursery industry, and will help measure the economic contribution of this industry to United States agriculture.

The New England Agricultural Statistics Service is a field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. It is located in Concord, New Hampshire and is responsible for agricultural statistics for all six States in the region. The office can be reached at 1-800-642-9571 or through e-mail at nass-nh@nass.usda.gov. All National statistics and State level newsletters are available through free e-mail subscriptions and on the Internet at www.usda.gov/nass/.

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